

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-8 (Cancelled)

9. (New) A heating drying type infrared radiation moisture meter comprising:
a device for determining moisture content of a sample, said device including a radiation thermometer for determining a surface temperature of the sample by detecting infrared radiation emitted from the sample.

10. (New) The heating drying type infrared radiation moisture meter according to claim 9, further comprising:
a sample plate for supporting the sample,
wherein said radiation thermometer is above, aslant above, under or aslant under said sample plate, such that when the sample is on said sample plate said radiation thermometer is spaced from the sample by a distance that allows the infrared radiation emitted from the sample to be received by said radiation thermometer.

11. (New) The heating drying type infrared radiation moisture meter according to claim 10, further comprising:
a heating reference element, for performing temperature calibration of said radiation thermometer, removably disposed within said sample plate.

12. (New) The heating drying type infrared radiation moisture meter according to claim 10, wherein
said radiation thermometer includes an opening through which the infrared radiation is received, and a removable clear protective cover for covering said opening.

13. (New) The heating drying type infrared radiation moisture meter according to claim 10, wherein
said radiation thermometer includes a heat insulating cover.

14. (New) The heating drying type infrared radiation moisture meter according to claim 13, wherein

said radiation thermometer includes an opening through which the infrared radiation is received, and a removable clear protective cover for covering said opening.

15. (New) The heating drying type infrared radiation moisture meter according to claim 14, further comprising:

a heating reference element, for performing temperature calibration of said radiation thermometer, removably disposed within said sample plate.

16. (New) The heating drying type infrared radiation moisture meter according to claim 9, further comprising:

a sample plate for supporting the sample; and

a light conducting member above said sample plate,

wherein said radiation thermometer is positioned to receive infrared radiation emitted from the sample after this radiation has been guided by said light conducting member.

17. (New) The heating drying type infrared radiation moisture meter according to claim 16, wherein

said radiation thermometer includes a heat insulating cover.

18. (New) The heating drying type infrared radiation moisture meter according to claim 17, wherein

said light conducting member comprises one of a mirror and an optical fiber.

19. (New) The heating drying type infrared radiation moisture meter according to claim 16, wherein

said radiation thermometer includes an opening through which the infrared radiation is received, and a removable clear protective cover for covering said opening.

20. (New) The heating drying type infrared radiation moisture meter according to claim 19, wherein

said light conducting member comprises one of a mirror and an optical fiber.

21. (New) The heating drying type infrared radiation moisture meter according to claim 16, wherein

said light conducting member comprises one of a mirror and an optical fiber.

22. (New) The heating drying type infrared radiation moisture meter according to claim 16, further comprising:

a heating reference element, for performing temperature calibration of said radiation thermometer, removably disposed within said sample plate.

23. (New) The heating drying type infrared radiation moisture meter according to claim 22, wherein

said light conducting member comprises one of a mirror and an optical fiber.

24. (New) The heating drying type infrared radiation moisture meter according to claim 22, wherein

said radiation thermometer includes a heat insulating cover.

25. (New) The heating drying type infrared radiation moisture meter according to claim 24, wherein

said radiation thermometer includes an opening through which the infrared radiation is received, and a removable clear protective cover for covering said opening.

26. (New) The heating drying type infrared radiation moisture meter according to claim 9, wherein

said radiation thermometer includes a heat insulating cover.

27. (New) The heating drying type infrared radiation moisture meter according to claim 9, wherein

said radiation thermometer includes an opening through which the infrared radiation is received, and a removable clear protective cover for covering said opening.

28. (New) The heating drying type infrared radiation moisture meter according to claim 9, further comprising:

a sample plate for supporting the sample; and

a heating reference element, for performing temperature calibration of said radiation thermometer, removably disposed within said sample plate.